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LIVE PERFORMANCES: COMING TO THE UNITED STATES

Japan's m.o.v.e known for their music for the "Initial D" anime series is coming to the US in April!

The exciting music trio from Japan known as m.o.v.e is set to bring their unique music of rock, rap, electronica and metal to the US this April for Sakura-Con 2007 in Seattle, WA.

The trio consisting of lead vocalist yuri, musician and producer t-kimura and rapper motsu are celebrating their 10th year anniversary and have released a total of 26 CD singles, eight full length albums, seven remix albums and two best albums in Japan.

The group is best known for the opening and closing theme songs for popular animation and video game series "Initial D".

Unlike many artists featured on an anime series with typically a single song, the group has had a total of nine songs used as theme songs for the "Initial D" series (1st STAGE through 4th STAGE).

Because of the popularity of the series, m.o.v.e has a dedicated fanbase all over the world.

As for the members of the group, producer and musician t-kimura is known to many J-POP fans for his music for the group Favorite Blue (1996-2000).

Kimura has also produced songs for notable talent Hamasaki Ayumi, Shimatani Hitomi, V6 and TRF.

The rapper of the group, motsu is an MC for Avex's online music show "Channel a" and has been involved in composing and remixing music for groups like V6 and even anime such as "Crayon Shin-Chan".

As for lead vocalist yuri, she was spotted at an audition for the music variety show ASAYAN, and captured the attention of t-kimura who later selected her to become the lead vocalist of the new group he was starting up.

The group which eventually became known as m.o.v.e gets its name from not



PHOTO: Avex Tune artists m.o.v.e (from L-R): t-kimura, yuri and motsu who will be performing at Sakura-Con 2007 in Seattle, Washington. Image courtesy of Avex Entertainment Inc.

settling into one type of music genre and is constantly moving.

With the demand for their music to be released in the US, m.o.v.e's music can now be purchased and downloaded on iTunes.

Having debuted back in Oct. 1997 with their first CD single "ROCK IT DOWN" (AVDT-20009), in April their performance at Sakura-Con 2007 will definitely be a special occasion as fans will be able to celebrate their tenth year anniversary with a special one-night performance.

Celebrate with m.o.v.e by pre-registering for Sakura-Con 2007 by visiting their website at www.sakuracon.org.

For more information on m.o.v.e, please visit their official website at www.electropica.com.

— DENNIS A. AMITH

SAKURA-CON 2007 INFORMATION

DATES: April 6-8

LOCATION: Seattle, Washington

Pre-Register now and save substantially versus at door prices. Pre-registration helps ANCEA, a state and federal non-profit organization, put on the best Sakura-Con possible! For more information please visit our website at <http://www.sakuracon.org>.

FULL CONVENTION MEMBERSHIP RATES
\$45 until 2-28-2007 \$60 at the door
Children age 6-12 are half-price
Children under 6 are free

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